

## Unit 2/Lesson 11

### Lesson Title: Wall of Peace/ Tribute to all Veterans

**Short Term Goal:** We will build a symbolic “wall of peace” out of fact/opinion paragraphs written to honor our veterans.

#### Common Core Standards:

- RI.2.1. Ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- RI.2.2. Identify the main topic of a multi paragraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.
- RI.2.3. Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- RI.2.8. Describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in a text.
- CC.3.W.2d Provide a concluding statement or section.
- CC.3.W.3.d. Provide a sense of closure.
- CC.3.W.4. With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
- CC.3.W.5. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grade 3 on pages 28 and 29.)
- CC.3.W.10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences

#### SLE's:

- C.5.3.1: Examine the significance of national symbols and the role they play in fostering effective citizenship (e.g., National Anthem, Liberty Bell, Pledge of Allegiance, American Flag, Statue of Liberty, United States Constitution)
- C.5.3.4: Discuss the proper etiquette for the American flag
- C.4.3.4: Identify the fundamental ideals of democracy (e.g., human rights, justice, common good, equal opportunity)

#### Materials:

- paper and pen/pencil
- construction paper
- colored pencils or crayons
- scissors
- copy of veterans survey sheet
- Veterans Day ppt.
- Veterans Day Teacher Resource
- Journeys Lesson 11

- Veterans Day Power point
- Veterans Day Resource (for teacher: background information)
- The Story of Veterans Day (for teacher: background information)

### **Direct Explanation/Model:**

Whole Group

#### **What:**

We will honor veterans by building a symbolic wall of peace. The wall will contain fact and opinion paragraphs written about Veterans and the holiday set aside to honor them. The students will think/write critically about the day and what it means to be an American.

#### **Why:**

Students will develop an appreciation for the contributions and sacrifices veterans have made for our country.

#### **How:**

This lesson can be used to commemorate Memorial Day or Veterans Day. In the lesson, students will choose a question(s) to respond in writing. The written paragraph will be attached to a symbolic "brick." Students' bricks will be used to commemorate the day and build a "Wall of Peace."

You might begin the lesson by talking about the holiday. Show the power point to teach the children the history of Veterans Day. Visit [The Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall](#) to further the students' understanding of the sacrifice soldiers are willing to make for their country.

### **Guided Activity:**

Write the following questions on a chalk/whiteboard or chart:

- What do you feel is the cornerstone of our country?
- In what ways can we honor our veterans?
- How do we show respect for our country?
- In what ways can we, as individuals, on a daily basis help keep the peace?
- What is tolerance?
- How does tolerance promote peace?
- Veterans have shown their loyalty to our country. How can we show ours?
- Why is it important to keep honoring our veterans?

Talk about facts and opinions with the students. Refer to lesson 11 in Journeys. Opinions are things people say based on what they think or feel. Facts are able to be proven. Sometimes we

have opinions that are based on facts. We will write this type of paragraph to remember our Veterans. Model writing a paragraph for the students.

Choose the first question to model for the students. **What do you feel is the cornerstone of our country?** You might answer by saying:

### Topic Sentence

I think the cornerstone of our country is liberty.

### Supporting Facts

In the Declaration of Independence our forefathers wrote, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are CREATED equal, that they are endowed by their CREATOR with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." The "Bill of Rights" was added to the Constitution in 1791 to preserve the individual rights of American citizens.

### Concluding Sentence

The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution are two of our countries most important documents. They both mention the importance of liberty. For these reasons I believe that liberty is the cornerstone of our country.

### Apply:

Ask students to write a paragraph in response to one of the other questions. Encourage the students to write an opinion about the holiday and give reasons for their opinion based on the facts surrounding Veterans Day. Have students/peers edit the paragraphs for publication. Once students have edited their paragraphs for grammar, punctuation, and spelling, they will write or type their paragraphs on a paper "brick." (Or they might write/type on white paper, then cut out and mount their paragraph on a red brick.) Build a Wall of Peace on a classroom bulletin board by having students read aloud their paragraphs one at a time; then have them place their bricks on the bulletin board. Leave space between bricks to represent the mortar that holds the bricks in place. The bricks in this classroom Wall of Peace represent important characteristics: peace, honor, respect, tolerance, and loyalty.